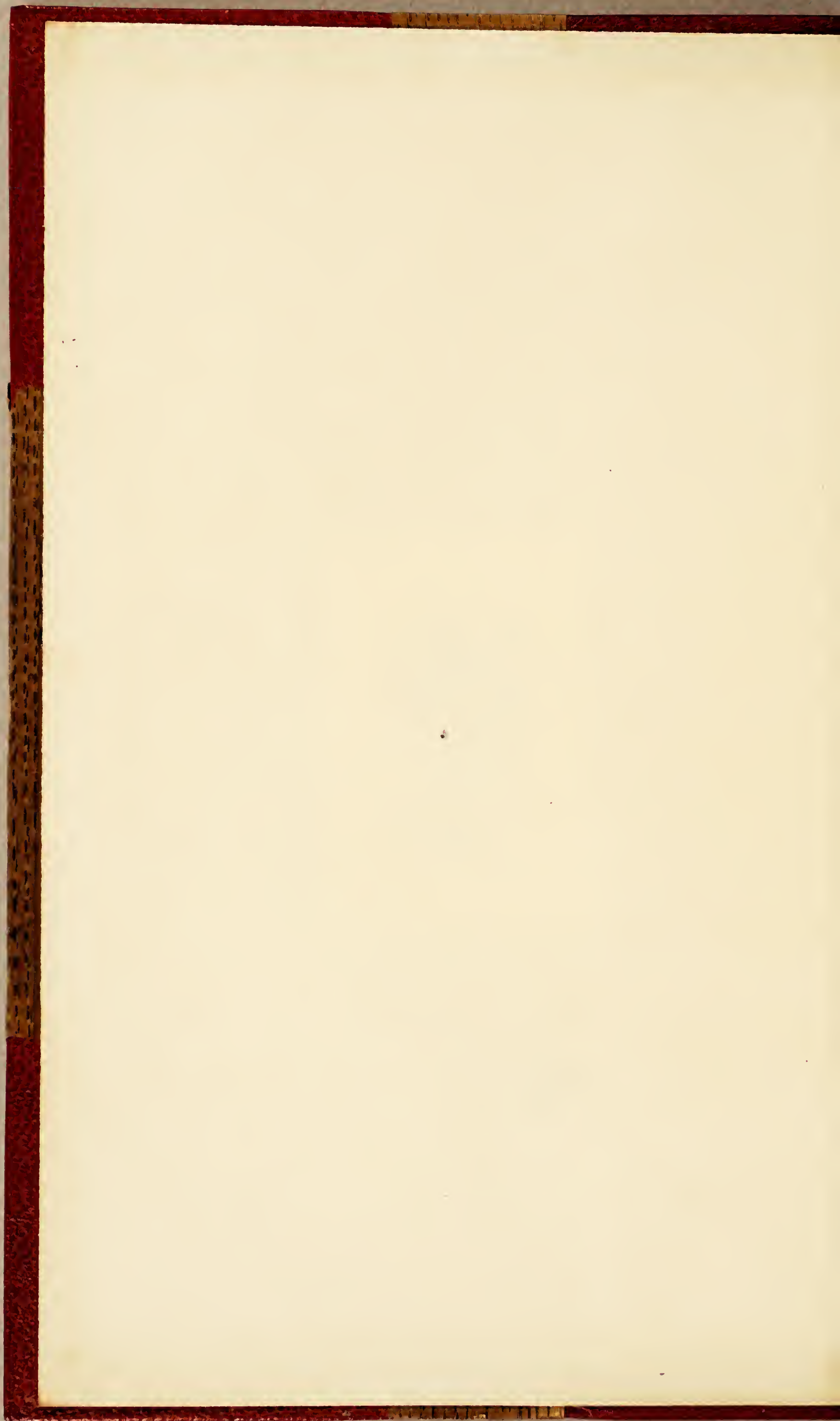




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THE
PATRIOT
UNMASKED,
OR, A
Word to his Defenders.

By JOHN TROTT,
Cheese-monger and Statesman.

Vir Gregis, ipse CAPER, deerraverat.

VIRG.

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1619

T H E

Patriot unmasked ;

O R, A

W O R D to his D E F E N D E R S.

HA, ha, ha, ha. What a pack of comical
 Fellows ye are all at last! — I could
 split my Sides with laughing at ye. — P—!
 Patriotism! Blood and thunder! Why you
 would have frighten'd half the World into
 Hyftericks, had not your kind Leader, in
 Compassion to the Infirmities of the rest of
 Mankind, changed those terrifying Sounds
 into *Titles* of a smoother Nature. — Well,
 but, my good Mr. Politick-Mongers, how
 (as *Tristram Shandy* says) d'ye find yourselves
 at last? Don't your *Temples* ache violently?
 Or does this second Part to the Tune of

A Lord there was

agree with your Constitution? If it does, I
 am heartily glad of it; for while you are

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but wise enough to follow implicitly any Leader who clamours loudly for Liberty and Property, take my Word you will never want Bell-Weathers enough, to lead ye like a Flock of Sheep.

You remember, my good Friends, what a Pother you made in the Year 1739. The *Spaniard* turned Anatomist, and having very dextrously amputated one of your Sea Captain's Ears, sent it home by him as a Present to the King. The Story was truly lamentable : so was *Bet Canning's* : You felt the Incision in every Nerve of ye : Your *Spartan* Oratour represented it in the most pathetic Light. At the Bar of the H—— of C——, he represented it, and the whole Assembly was in Flames. Such Insults to offended Majesty were not to be borne. Your Leaders said so, therefore you joined in the Cry : To stop the Blood a few Heads must be broken : The Remedy, 'tis true, appeared dreadful, but nevertheless was applied. For near Twenty Years, you kept cutting and slashing. Blood-letting, no Doubt, is good in feverish Cases ; yours was a high Fever, attended with a Phrensy : But, to your unspeakable Misfortune, Captain *Jenkins* still lives at *Dublin*, after all your Rout and Clamour

mour about him, *and has both his Ears on his Head, as well as any of ye all.*

METHINKS I see ye growing angry with me ; you will call me Fool and Knave, and a thousand Names beside. Many of ye are paid for so doing, therefore I cannot but forgive ye, as it is your Profession. All I ask in Return is, that you would forgive me, if I only laugh at ye : For, as I have long found out that Laughing agrees admirably well with my Constitution, I never fail to indulge myself in a competent Dose of it on every convenient Occasion.

But supposing now, my good Friends, if instead of giving way to this black splenetic Humour of yours, you were to prepare a few more Gold Boxes, against the next Patriot who may lay Claim to them on the Strength of a good Pair of Lungs. You cannot want a speedy Opportunity of disposing of them : Therefore I say, go to, and prepare them as fast as possible ; A dozen or fifteen Gold Boxes make as handsome a Show on a Patriot's Side-board, as so many large Family Tankards, out of which your Ancestors drew copious Draughts of Sack and Liberty in good *Queen Bess's* Days. Prepare them,
then,

then, I say, as fast as possible; till some more condescending Person shall be found, one of your own C—y A———n would not refuse to accept of them. He mouths it as well as any-body, and though it be very difficult, for the most Part, to comprehend what he says, yet as he is often heard to pronounce the Words *Liberty* and *Property*, these surely are enough to recommend him to your Favour. You know too that he was the Right Hand of your last great Favourite: you even took him to ye, in a great Measure, on his Recommendation; and, when it was thought adviseable to change the Word *Patriotism* into Pension, your A———n was assisting to him, in giving him Advice. Range yourselves therefore immediately under his Banners, and as Nonsense is found to sway more with ye than Sense, you may depend upon not being disappointed.

BUT while I am thus solicitous, my good Friends, for your Welfare, I am not a little uneasy about the Clamours at this very Time propagated against ye by your Enemies. They say that you have treated one of your oldest Patriots very ill, only because he has spent the greatest Part of his Fortune in preserving your *Religion* and *Liberty*; while every

ry

ry one who raises himself to Titles and Honours, by but pretending to preserve them, is sure to meet with a large Portion of your Favour. Such are the Charges your Enemies lay against ye: They even go so far as to confirm them by a Variety of Examples. But, after all this Rout about them, what is there so wonderful in all this? Are ye not a trading Nation? Do not Numbers of ye, once in seven Years, dispose of your Liberties, your Properties, and almost your very Beings? Therefore how can any Man expect to recommend himself to your Favour, by not following the laudable Example set by ye? Some thousand Years ago, indeed, when *Athens* and *Aristides* were in full Glory, such old-fashioned Notions might have done very well; but now, when Money is so justly considered as the Life and Soul of every Thing, sure it is much better to see a Statesman retiring from Business with a Grant of NINETY, or an HUNDRED THOUSAND Pounds, in his Pocket, besides other pretty little Wind-falls, than to be carried out to his Grave at the public Expence, and his Daughters portioned out of the Exchequer, or Treasury.

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Go on, then, my good Friends, and never mind what your Enemies say of you. Should the Addition made to your national Debt, by new Taxes and new Pensions, oblige you to wipe it all off at last, sure there would be nothing wonderful in this; Bankruptcies, in a trading Nation are not uncommon. But, to see any Man, in such a Country (whether Duke, Lord, or Commoner) who will be so queer as to spend what he has for the Sake of doing Good to the Public, is so rare a Sight, and so very opposite to the Principles you yourselves teach, that it ought to be discouraged. Hunt him, therefore, down, as fast as you can: Join in one general Cry against him; and, as long as he persists in following his strange, obsolete, antiquated Virtue, let all your Thunders burst upon his Head, till he consent to retrieve his impaired Circumstances, by adorning himself, his Wife and Family, with the weeping Spoils of a *bleeding Country*.

I AM surpris'd, my Friends, that in the very elaborate Treatises many of you are so kind as to write, in Defence of our late great Patriot's Resignation, any should be found so imprudent, as to assert that he has not
taken

taken proper care of his own private Concerns. As to the THREE THOUSAND a Year, to be sure, that is but a Trifle, just sufficient to keep his Family from starving, or so; and, sometimes, upon Occasion, perhaps, also to make a Figure. But, to say that he has not taken care to lay up something else in Store against a rainy Day, is such an Imputation to his known Prudence and Love of OEconomy, as cannot but prejudice him greatly in the Opinion of Mankind. Indeed, my Fellow-Scribblers, I should be much grieved for this unlucky Slip of yours, but that I am in Hopes nobody will be found silly enough to believe you; for, as it cannot be supposed that he has condescended to let you into the real State of his Purse, your Assertion, with every thinking Man, will undoubtedly fall to the Ground. If Appearances too can plead the least in his Favour, we all know that he has accepted of a Pension of THREE THOUSAND a Year, for his own Life, his dear Lady's Life, and the Life of his Son. Now, calculating these three Lives only at Thirty Years Purchase, the known Sum he has had the Prudence to lay in Store for himself amounts directly to NINETY THOUSAND Pounds. I am told, indeed, that *Ephraim the Jew*, has already

declared publickly at *Jonathan's*, that he would give him a HUNDRED THOUSAND down upon the Nail for it ; but, as I never proceed but upon Facts, especially where the Public can calculate as well as we, I shall only remind ye, that, upon the most moderate Computation, this trifling Grant is worth at least NINETY THOUSAND Pounds. Therefore, how could you possibly be so indiscreet as to say, that he has not taken proper Care of himself and Family ?

BUT so lately ago. as the Reign of King *James* the First, Fifteen Thousand Pounds were thought too great a Sum to be given away to one Man ; what then will now be thought of you, when you say, That SIX TIMES FIFTEEN THOUSAND is Nothing ! Surely, my Brethren, you either did not, or could not calculate ; for certainly NINETY THOUSAND Pounds are a good round Sum, even in these wealthy Days.

BUT, indeed, my Fellow-Scribblers, you are quite out in every Particular. You say, that to be created a Baroness of one of the most considerable Stations to the whole *British* Navy, is Nothing. Do you think his M——y then intended putting an Affront

front upon him? Would ye make his mighty Services of so little Worth, as that they should be rewarded with Nothing? Take Heed, my Brethren, how ye go on; this vile Logick of yours will undo us all. For if it should be believed that the K—g has done *Nothing* for him, every one who knows his M——y's Goodness, will certainly say, that he has deserved *Nothing* at his Hands.

As to the Parallel some of ye have drawn between him, and a certain great Statesman who lately resigned, there again you have done us more Hurt than Good. Fie, fie, my Friends, you must certainly have heard that Comparisons are odious, therefore how could you be so ridiculous as to lug them in here? The World knows that no Comparison can be made between them; the one never acted but as a Moderator between both Parties, the other was always a strenuous Stickler for the Tory Interest. He came in by the Tories: He was kept in by the Tories: That is to say, till he found it his Interest to desert them, and, by accepting of a Grant of at least NINETY THOUSAND POUNDS, bind himself, for ever, to the Court Party.

OH, but you will tell me, he has not bound himself to any such Thing : Are you sure he has not ? Did you ever know a Pensioner do otherwise ? If ye have, why were ye so angry with old *Cato*, only for just giving ye the Slip, as this Patriot of ours has done ? He was as great an Oratour, as great a Statesman, a better Writer, and had opposed the Court Measures full as violently as our present Favourite has done ; and that too in Days when your Liberties were in much greater Danger, than any one will pretend to say they now are. If ye could look upon him then with so much Disgust ever since, though he accepted but of a Title, how can ye so extol the Proceedings of our present Darling, who, besides a Title, has secured to his Descendants more substantial Favours. Should ye reply, that he has secured only the Chink to himself, leaving the Emptiness of a Title to his Lady, and her Heirs, the World will instantly tell ye, that he has secured by much the most valuable Part. And, for his declining the Honour of being styled Lord Baron P—, they know it to be a stale Trick, purely calculated to lessen the Odium that the Nation will naturally cast upon him, and likewise to be of more Service to those whose Cause he has

thus

thus publickly espoused, by still preserving his Seat in that august Assembly, which is the principal Bulwark of all our Liberties. — Surely, my Fellow-Labourers in the Vineyard, you had all lost your Senses, when you put the World in Mind of these Things! What had ye to do, but to pass them over in Silence; and, by dwelling upon his oratorical Talents only, tell Mankind what he has said, what he can still say, and not what he has just done?

ANOTHER unfortunate Stroke, my dear Associates, of yours, is your recalling to Remembrance all his past Services. Alas! will not the people of *England* at the same Time call to remembrance, what immense Sums these boasted Services have cost them? Will they not be apt to run an odious Comparison between the Blood and Treasure expended in the Siege of *Belleisle*, and the little Utility that Island is of after all to the Publick? Will not the Wives and Daughters of those slain in the Reduction of that untenable Fortrefs point it out as the Cause of all their Woes? Are not the Cries of orphaned Matrons continually ringing in your Ears, lamenting aloud the untimely Fate of their lost Children? *In Ramah was there*

*there a Voice heard, Lamentation, and Weeping, and great Mourning; Rachael weeping for her Children and would not be comforted, because they are not. Alas ! my good Friends, how could you touch upon so tender a String ? Is it not sufficient that we are every Hour told of the Numbers carried off there daily by Sickness, that ye should thus recall to our Minds those also who perished by the Edge of the Sword ? But the Mistake is now become irretrievable. No sooner shall these unfortunate Conquests be mentioned, than they will instantly put the World in Mind of the Twelve Millions, it cost us annually to make them. They will put the World in Mind, how much greater Conquests were every Campaign achieved by the great Duke of *Marlborough* ; and, as you have set them the Example by running Comparisons, they will probably also tell us at how much less a Sum.*

To you and I, indeed, my Friends, the present enormous load of Taxes, and that *Ætnean Burthen*, the national Debt, may perhaps be of no Concern, as we possibly neither contribute much to the one, or shou'd suffer any Loss by the other, should another Bankruptcy, worse than that in the Year

1720,

1720, happen. But yet, take Heed, how you touch upon these Matters, for though we may have no Concern in them, yet *Augusta*, the Pride of Cities, the Glory of Nations, will take Alarm. The moneyed Men of the Kingdom will stand aghast at the Thoughts of it, and say that all our mighty Patriot's Schemes have been productive of nothing but an increase of Debts and Misery to the Nation, of ruinous Taxes, and impending Bankruptcies. His Opposition to a *German* War will perhaps recur to their View, while the Part he afterwards bore in the Management of that War, is yet fresh before all our Eyes. They will tell us, that we were never plunged so deep in continental Connections as at this very Time: And that the Man who has done this, was the Person who declared himself so violently against them; that a *Spanish* War, which you pretend (though but few I hope will be found weak enough to believe ye) was the Cause of his Resignation, would utterly have ruined us: That in the midst of all these destructive Measures, this enormous Load of Debts and Taxes, and all these dangerous Broils with our Neighbours, he has taken the first Opportunity of getting himself safe into Harbour,

Harbour, leaving the poor old Ship to weather out the impending Storm, as well as she can; and the Publick who are the Passengers, to escape in case of Shipwreck, by the first Plank that Providence may throw in their Way. As all these Things my honest Fellow-labourers will be urged against the Cause we espouse; let us therefore be entirely silent upon the Matter, lest our Zeal instead of benefitting, should only offend.

BUT perhaps you think that something ought to be said in his Vindication. Why truly I think so too. But as it is so difficult to know what to say, I am of Opinion that we had all much better be silent till we could say something to the Purpose, For as to those declamatory Sketches of Oratory, those Suppositions upon Suppositions, those infinite Numbers of Interrogatories following closely upon one another, as thick as Flies in a hot Summer's Evening, those *Questions* made only to be answered by the very Persons who put them; the *Gazetteer*, the *Monitor*, the — and the many *et cæteras* of the scribbling Tribe; it is certain they have already done more Harm to the Cause they pretend to espouse,

espouse, than any Thing our bitterest Enemies could have said against it.

IN Order to examine more minutely one of the most doughty of these Performances, I shall here lay it Verbatim before ye.

Q. 1. What is the Reason of Mr. PITT's Resignation? — That remains to be solved by Time.

Q. 2. Is it on Account of Health? — The Answer is short — No-body can blame him.

Q. 3. Is it because he was not suffered to prosecute those MEASURES which he judged might be of Service to the Nation? — No-body can blame him.

Q. 4. But is there not another Reason (which, perhaps, is a true one)? Mr. PITT knew that the Treaties for Peace were to begin afresh? — His Virtue, his Popularity (for to that even Virtue is not indifferent) might not permit him to depart a Tittle from his deliberate Resolutions on that Point.

Q. 5. Has he not deserted his Country then by resigning? — He is still left at Liberty to take Care ‘ Ne quid Detrementi

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capiat

‘*repiat Respublica.*’ He may still and will be — the DICTATOR of the People.

Q. 6. How! has he not resigned it?—— His office, not his Power. The Power that raised him to serve, I had almost said, save his Country, yet remains—for there is yet a House of Commons.

Q. 7. But has he not accepted a Pension?——Yes—but not as a Pensioner: That never can be. Mr. PITT was never avaritious, and he is very, very Rich—— He is out of Debt and contented with a little. A Reward bestowed rather on his Family than himself; bestowed by his King for real Services done his Country. He who would not solicit, is blamed for not refusing.

Q. 8. And has not his Lady obtained a Peerage? —— Yes.

Q. 9. And will not his Descendants be thereby ennobled? — No — but by Virtue and Patriotism. Pray Heaven they may not disgrace the Commoner.

Q. 10. But why was not Mr. PITT himself made a Peer?——This Question was never put: But, if it were, see the Answers to Q. 5 and 6. [*Gazetteer*, Oct. 16.]

Was there ever such a Parcel of Nonsense stringed together before? Such *English*! Such *Latin*! *Ne quid Detrementi capiat Respublica*! Had the Author been now, where he ought to be, at School, I should have recommended him to his Master, as a very proper Object of Correction, for not being able to quote five Words of *Latin* out of a common Author without Blundering. Did the poor Creature too think that the World had so little Understanding left as to be imposed upon by such Jargon? Pensions granted to Persons who are not Pensioners. Peerages conferred, without bestowing Nobility. Questions without Answers, and Answers without Questions. Verily, my Friends, of all the absurd Defenses which have hitherto been made for him, this is by much the absurdest. For to omit, that the same charge will probably be laid against the Author, as is imputed to a very eminent Commentator on the Bible, namely that he has stated his Questions stronger than his Answers, will it not be likewise said of him, that he understood not the true Meaning of the Word *Dictator*, seeing he has introduced it so unfortunately here.

For it is well known that *Sylla* and *Cæsar* were both *Dictators*, and in that Capacity drew so great an Odium upon the Office, that, by a very particular Decree of the Senate, it was utterly abolished. Besides, a Dictator, under a kingly Government, is an Officer never heard of, and the Words *Dictator of the People*, if they mean any-thing, must be understood to mean one who rules the People as he pleases, which how true soever with regard to our Patriot, I would by no Means have buzzed about, as Nothing is more disagreeable to *British* Subjects, than to be told that they are led by the Nose by any Man,

BUT, really, my Brethren, such is the Infatuation of all who have writ for him, that the very Things they ought not to have touched upon, they make the principal Source of all their Arguments. One of those Zealots, in a large Common-place Treatise of Fifty-two Pages, after a dry Detail of the several Conquests performed, as he calls it, by him (though it is certain he has been all the While in *England*) abuses poor Mr. *Busby* for doing the best he could for his Country. Now, though you and I may be sorry for what he has done (if, indeed, he has done any-

any-thing) yet what will the World think of us, if we should blame a Man only for taking Care “ *Ne quid Detrementi capiat Respublica.*” Those Conquests, too, as I said before, are not the Thing : They cost us too much, they bring us in too little ; they were achieved by the Conduct and Valour of others ; they will bear no Comparison with the great Duke of *Marlborough’s* Exploits. Yet that great Man, after all his Conquests, was compelled by a Tory Faction to flee his Country, and our great Man, after his Support from the Tories, suffers himself to be made a Pensioner to the Whigs.

You see, then, my Friends, how unfortunate it is to mention these Circumstances, as the World will perceive, without the Help of a Glass, the great Difference there is between being driven out by a Faction, and coinciding with a Party. In the first Case, Animosities generally succeed, and the Object of their Wrath, if he escapes their Vengeance, seldom is known to be rewarded by them : But here we see our Minister most bountifully rewarded by that very Court whose Measures he had always so obstinately opposed. The Device, therefore, of our Party

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ty, in saying that he had been turned out by the opposite Interest, could it ever have been credited; would here fail: But indeed the Whole was so absurd, so very glaring, that the sensible Part of Mr. P—'s Friends always discountenanced it from the very Beginning. The real Truth of the Matter is, that, after all his Patriotism and Integrity, he resigned, as many other worthy Patriots have done, when he could get well paid for it. In his late M——y's Reign, we saw him in and out, but saw him not pensioned before; the Reason of this was, that his late M——y had no great Esteem for the Man, and therefore would not pension him; but no sooner was our present glorious Monarch, (whom God long preserve) settled on the Throne of his royal Ancestors, than we saw him immediately accept of that Munificence, which his M——y, in his great Bounty, was so graciously pleased to bestow *spontaneously* upon him.

THESE Things, my worthy Friends, we shall never get over. We shall never be able to obliterate the two unlucky Circumstances of a Title and Pension. For though it should be said that the one was granted in Consideration of his past Services, and the

the other we will suppose, to gratify a Woman's Vanity, no Matter whose: Yet as the Patriots who have ever gone before him, had for the most Part the same Plea to urge for themselves; the World has never yet been found foolish enough to believe it, and I am afraid, never will.

As to the other Arguments used by another of our declamatory Writers, who notwithstanding all his Oratory, to his own and his Party's irreparable Misfortune, has never learnt Grammar, it will carry no more Weight with it than the rest. It will even go strongly against us, therefore I wish the Author had been bred up to the Plough-tail, instead of being sent to School to learn to write. For when the Question shall be put, Whether he ought not to do the best he could for himself and Family? Whether he ought not to get Pensions and Titles? Whether he ought not to get Boxes, Freedoms, and the Lord knows what? The World will instantly reply, No. They will tell you that Virtue is a sufficient Reward of herself. They will say, that the having taken Care to aggrandize themselves and Families, is the principal Charge they had to lay against other Patriots; and that
our

our present Patriot, not to mention divers Windfalls, had less need of a Pension, than any one else, as both his Lordship (I beg your Pardon) his Commonership and my Lady B——s have been more than once heard to declare, that they could live on Six Pence a Day——Glorious Patterns of primæval Frugality, had not all these fine Professions been unluckily overthrown by the Acceptance of a Pension of NINETY THOUSAND POUNDS.

BESIDES this they will tell us of that same old-fashioned fellow *Aristides*, whose Name I have mentioned in the beginning of this Treatise, having remembered picking up some Storics concerning him, among the Waste Paper that has been brought to my Shop: They will tell us, I say, as how this great Man, after being many Years Secretary of State, at a Place called *Athens*, where undoubtedly he might have got a good deal of Money, died at last not worth a Groat: They will tell us, that it is thus all Patriots ought to die, rather than establish their Fortune on the Ruins of a *bleeding Country*; and that, notwithstanding all the Clamours raised against a certain great Man, it is very well known, that he has been so far from decking himself with our Spoils, that the principal

Part

Part of a large paternal Inheritance has been expended in our Service; yet of this Man, my Brethren, what has not been said, what not written? While Foreigners, ready to do Justice to his Merit, have been known to declare in publick, “ That the Duke of
 “ *N——* was a much better and abler
 “ Man than the *English* thought him; and
 “ that the only Fault they knew in him,
 “ was his being too lavish of his own Money for the Good of the Publick.” Should ye ask, with a Grin, what Foreigners said this? The French *Mounsiers*? To prevent your falling into another Mistake that may hurt us, I will tell ye, it was not the French *Mounsiers* said it; I detest a *Mounsier* as much as any of ye: The Person that said it was General *Wall*, a Gentleman as highly esteemed among us, as any Ambassadour that ever trod *English* Ground; and one who, at this very Time, is by his great Merit, raised to be Secretary of State to the King of *Spain*. If Authorities, therefore, weigh any-thing with ye, his *G——*, to our Confusion, has as good Authority, both in Support of his Abilities, and Integrity, as human Testimony can give.

BUT how shall we be able to support a Charge of a contrary Nature that might be brought against our Darling, if such a Charge should be made publick? His Enemies say, (for what will not his Enemies say) that he has been guilty of Ingratitude to this very Man, whose Merit Foreigners so justly admire: They will tell ye, that it was the Duke of N—— first raised him to the Senate, though he has since had the Art to turn the popular Clamour so much against him. But I only just mention these Things, that as Ingratitude, you know, is worse than the Sin of Witchcraft, in case it should come once to be universally known, you might be able to find a proper Salvo for it.

BE wary then, my Friends, in what you assert: For, as you have hitherto asserted nothing but what has been of Prejudice to us, it behoves us all to be so much the more cautious. To extol our Patriot's Abilities so far as to say that no one else is able to hold the Helm of Government but himself, would certainly be justly resented by all others of any Distinction in the Nation, as well as an Offence against Providence, which has always been found kinder to our various Wants
than

than to make them dependent on the Frailty of one Individual. With regard also to the Supplies, the Publick is not so weak as to be persuaded that they can never be raised but by Mr. P—'s Concurrence ; therefore, be entirely silent on that Head. They remember well, how sixteen Men only engaged for the Supplies of the then ensuing Year ; and that those sixteen Men are still living : but were they all dead, and their very Names, which now do so much Honour to themselves and Country, perfectly obliterated, do ye not think that there are others still to be found, whose Patriotism would carry them as far on a like Occasion ? Do ye not think that we have other Noblemen, whose Credit would be as soon taken among them, as that of our own favourite Commoner ? Were it otherwise, well might they cry out with *Cassius* in *Caesar*,

Now is it *Rome* indeed ! And Room enough,
When there is in it but one only Man.

BUT a Supposition so absurd will, I hope, never find a Place in our Imaginations. For does not every *Briton* feel for his Country's, for his King's Honour ? And whither would all our boasted Loyalty, all our Patriotism,

be fled, were we disposed to support the Glory of his Majesty's Crown no longer than he was himself pleased to retain such and such Servants? Will ye debar your Prince of the Right which every Subject would stand astonished to have disputed with him, of choosing what Servants he pleases? Has not his M——y already shewn his Discretion, in fixing upon a Nobleman of acknowledged Merit and Abilities? Would ye then render that Merit, those Abilities, of no Service to the Publick, by not seconding him in raising the Supplies? Believe me, my Friends, though you and I, and some half a Dozen more, might be glad so far to gratify our Resentment for the late Revolution, as it is called, in the Ministry, yet the Nation in general are much wiser than to do so: For if Matters go right, where can be the Difference, whether the Driver be named *John* or *James*? But to refuse to set the old Coach going, merely because we have not the Driver our sickly Fancies choose, and so let the Enemy win the Race, would surely be acting against our own proper Interests.

BUT some among ye, I find, are already so entirely convinced of the Ridiculousness of supposing the Fate of a whole Nation to
hang

hang upon one Man's Integrity and Abilities, that in a Pamphlet now before me, though the Author does not scruple most plentifully to bespatter the old Object of your *righteous* Spleen, yet he at the same Time very fairly gives up our Patriot's H——y. His Words are so remarkably severe on this Occasion, that it is with the greatest Reluctance, my dear Friends, I now lay them before ye; but as they have already appeared in Print, and therefore cannot be concealed, it is proper I should submit them here to your most serious Consideration.

“SOMEBODY (says this unrighteous Author, whom the Lord forgive for all his Wickedness) has observed, that there is no Virtue which has stood the Test less than Patriotism: Giving up every Thing for one's Country, is indeed a very severe Trial for the human Mind to undergo, in an Age when this Virtue is not in the greatest Repute. Among the ancient *Romans*, Children were taught to revere it, as soon as their Minds would admit of such an Idea; and when they grew up, they had not only their own Sentiments to strengthen their Resolutions, but the animating Example of
their

their Countrymen. In the present Times the Case is extremely different ; so great a Change has ensued, that a real *Patriot* would now be the Wonder and Admiration of his Age. Had the great Commoner, whom I have so often mentioned, retired from publick Business without that Pension, which, I fear, will be so fatal to his Fame : Had he given up the great Emoluments of his Office ; the high Power, the Splendor which is annexed to a Minister of State ; had he sacrificed these to his Reputation, and to a *sincere* Desire of acting only for the Service of his Country ; what might not the great Man have done ? who would not have adored the Name of P— ? Could a Pension give an *honest* Man that secret Satisfaction which results from a Knowledge of having given up every Thing for the Service of one's Country ? Would not the Admiration of a whole People, make some Amends for the Want of this Pension ? If Money was wanted, would not this great and opulent City have settled a Pension on him, equal or superior to what he now receives ? Which would have been most honourable to have received it as a Reward for his Services, from those who could not flatter in such a Case, or from a Ministry, as a

B—be

Be to stop his Mouth in the House of Commons? But supposing his Honour too delicate to agree to such a Proposal, though it certainly would be the greatest Honour he could receive, as it would be the strongest Proof of his Deserts, could the present Ministry have preserved their Power against such an Opposition in Parliament as the great Commoner ought in Conscience to have made, if he retired from Business merely because he did not approve of the then Measures? Is it not every Man's Duty, not only to serve his Country by acting himself for its Interests, but in preventing others from acting contrary to them? If he thought his Opposition would have brought him again into Power, and if he knew that he acted for the good of his Country when he was in Power, he ought to have made such an Opposition. And his receiving this Pension: this Cause of his Downfall in the Minds of his Countrymen, at such a Time, tells us very plainly, that the present Ministry will receive no Opposition from him, let their Measures be"——.

Letter to his Grace the Duke of Newcastle.
 Page 28, &c.

Yours

You see now my Friends and Fellow Subjects, what one even of our own Flock says of him. His desire of serving his Country, he says is not sincere. His Pension he calls a downright B—be; and his Voice he tells ye, you must never more expect to hear thundering in his Country's Cause, in that honourable House of which he has always approved himself so worthy a Member.—Alas Oratory whither will all thy Graces then be fled? Where shall we find those Tropes and Figures? Those beautiful Metaphors, those Flourishes of Rhetorick, so pleasing even to the untutor'd Ear? That Torrent of Language which exceeds the Force of those famed Declaimants themselves, on whom the universal Consent of all Mankind has bestowed the Appellation of double tongued: Whither, O! whither will they all be fled? How will the Country Gentleman now lift up his Head, and when a Motion shall be made for new Taxes, new Impositions by thy persuasive Voice, dare to speak openly against them, when the Lightning shall no longer be seen to flash from those Eyes, which before struck even Eloquence itself dumb at the Sight. No longer will the Senatour, who used to startle at the
Thoughts

Thoughts of adding *twelve Millions* annually to a Debt already almost too enormous to be discharged, lie under the least Apprehensions of declaring his Sentiments for Fear of being told, with a more than *Roman* or *Grecian* Fire, That the Remembrance of his Opposition to Measures so destructive to his Country's Weal, *shall hang about him at his latest Hour* ——— *That his own Family will despise him* ——— *That he shall be held in Detestation by Posterity* ——— *That History shall record him for an unfashionable Fool, for — daring but to oppose Measures so destructive to his Country's Weal — to the Weal of a poor bleeding Country.* How, I say, will he exult, when he now finds himself no longer under the Lash of that more than *Ciceronian* Tongue?

My Brethren, that all these beautiful Tropes will now be heard no more, or at least heard only where they should not, will for ever undo us all. — Reflection itself sickens at the Thought, and my very Pen, but erst so alert in the great Patriot's Defense, becomes wholly dull and inactive. — A sudden Languor creeps all over me, and that divine Warmth, that enthusiastic Rapture, which shot such a celestial Vigour

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through my whole Frame. at the bare Mention of the disinterested *P—t*'s Name, is now succeeded by Terrors from Pensions, from Titles, ——— by the Apparitions of Persons rising before me, whose Voice was exerted for their Country's Interest, only in order to procure to themselves a greater Share of its Plunder.

— — — — —
 As we are then evidently undone in the Opinion of all, unless some Means can be found out to palliate this Disaster, what think ye, my Friends, of summoning a *C——n C——l*, in order to fix upon some Method of doing it? Addresses, indeed, it is said, have been lately so liberally presented to the *T——e*, that thankful as his *M——y* is for every Instance of the Affection of his faithful Subjects, the Sight of a long Train of Burgeesses, coming in their Formalities, to congratulate him on every little Occasion, is become, they say, none of the most pleasing to him: The Dignity too of a free People, it must be confessed, is somewhat debased, by endeavouring to make every petite Affair a Handle for troubling the *R——l* Ear with a tedious Repetition of those Sentiments which our Actions only can best display. This Method, therefore
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can be attended with no Good. Writing has already prejudiced our Cause, and our Freedoms and Gold Boxes are all gone: What think ye then, my Brethren, if, instead of employing your Garretteers any more in his Behalf, you should instantly issue out Orders for silencing them all, and till some better Means can be devised, endeavour to stir up the Populace against the opposite Party, and by the Distribution of large Quantities of Faggots and Beer, tempt them to burn one or two great Men in Effigy: You know this is a Scheme which has often been attended with Success. — But the Mob, it is true, have always seen clearer than yourselves, and have never once exerted themselves, for these many Years past, excepting in Favour of those whom they have always and justly taken for the real Defenders of their Country.

WHAT then, my beloved Fellow-Subjects, shall be done, to set this ugly Matter to rights again. Writings hurt; Conquests must not be mentioned; Patriotism is quite out of the Question; Eloquence is dumb; Addresses, besides that they are disagreeable, have already been rejected in a neighbouring Borough, even tho' a Book

lay open several Days to receive the Names of such as would subscribe to a Motion for that Purpose; and the Mob it seems, is quite on the opposite Side. What then, I say, shall be done, seeing all these Measures fail? Suppose an anonymous Letter were written, no Matter to whom, or by whom, but let Care be taken to have it published in one of the daily Papers; let that Paper too, if possible, be the most famed among all those which every Day pay their Court to this Metropolis, for its Authenticity, Purity, and Productions of every Kind; these Dispositions taken, the only Thing then remaining to be done, will be to frame this Letter in such a Manner, as may be the most likely to win upon the Hearts of the People. Let a great Lord's Name be mentioned at full Length in the Beginning; let the Publick be made acquainted that the two mighty Men, the said Lord and Patriot, though both Brothers-in-Law, yet happened miraculously to be of the same Side, against the unanimous Opinion of all the P——y C———s present; let especial Care also be taken, to let the People know, that the Dissent of these two mighty Chieftains was occasioned by their disagreeing about a Measure which no small Pains

Pains had been taken to make the Nation as implicitly adopt, as they did their Repentment for poor Captain *Jenkins's* barbarous Treatment: Further, let this Letter be obscure in some Places, full of Ostentation in others, imperious in most; but, above all, let it call those *rash* and *unthinking*, who cannot be brought about to understand, that the receiving a Pension which has been *spontaneous*, though *unmerited*, is but a proper Reward for *Services* attended with the greatest *Success*: Let all this, with as much more unintelligible Matter as can be huddled together, be thrown into the Compass of about half a Column, and then printed in a most conspicuous Manner, that the World may see the Pathos, the Embarrassment, the Heat, the Cold, the Phlegm, the Fury, the Consistency, and Inconsistency of the Writer. When all these Things are done, — Pray, what then? — Why the Paper in which it is published may perhaps sell Two or Three Thousand more than ordinary, unless the *Gazetteer*, as usual, should pilfer it from them; Or, if this won't do, — Why e'en think of some other Device.

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As

As After-thoughts, my beloved Countrymen, are always reckoned best, and much Thinking may make a Blockhead wise, so in the Absence of my Customers, for alas ! these are no Days when a poor Cheese-monger might hope to see his Shop filled with Customers, notwithstanding all the fine Acquisitions made to our Territories by Conquest ; in the Absence of them, I sat me down to bethink myself of some other Device. As good Fortune would have it, my old Friend the *Gazetteer* happened to be lying before me, wherein it was asserted, among other Matters of equal Credit, that the Title would be vacated, the Pension declined, and the Patent lie dormant. Ah ! thought I, what a lucky Hit is this ! How happy would it be for the Support of our Cause, if such a Step were taken, or even if the People could but be brought to believe it ! For my own Part, I see but one Objection why it might not actually take Place ; and that depends entirely upon my L—y. Women, we all know, are too fond of Titles, and frequently also too tenacious of more important Matters, when they have once got thorough Possession of them. But as her L——p's Goodness is so well known, that there cannot be the least Doubt of her complying

complying with our Desires, I was thinking that if an Address, somewhat to the following Effect, were drawn up, Matters might yet be made easy.

Address.

THAT whereas it has pleased her L——p, and the good C——r, her Husband, to condescend to accept of Rewards, which, though *spontaneous*, the People are foolish enough to believe were not conferred for any good Purpose; and, in particular, that whereas it had pleased her L——p, in Imitation of my good L—y B——, to accept of a Title, which, even in the Opinion of her warmest Advocates, conferred *no Nobility*; that as her L——p knew all these Things to be true, she would most graciously be pleased to take the Premises into Consideration; and, in order to clear herself from the Imputation of Vanity, and what is worse that this Vanity has been in a great Measure the Cause of the late Downfal of our honourable Patriot, it is our humble Petition that her L——p would not only be pleased to return the Bauble back again to the Herald-Office; but likewise,

wise that she would vouchsafe to use her utmost Influence, in persuading the good C——r, her Husband, to give up also his trifling Pension, both for himself and Heirs; as being the only Means left of restoring them again to the Opinion of the People, who, in their great Ignorance, are so amazingly stupid, as to look upon the Whole as little better than a Barter for their Liberties; as if a Commoner might not be paid *Three Thousand* a Year by the Court, for declaiming on all Occasions, against it; or a Lady and a young Gentleman be dignified with a Peerage, without its being given as a Tie to the Husband's or Father's Tongue.

I think, my dear Brethren, that something of this Kind is the only Method now left to reinstate our Favorite in the good Opinion of the People. Their firm Persuasion, you know is, that the Whole has been a Juggle between * * * and * * * *, or at best a Contrivance on one Side, to lay hold of the first Opportunity that occurred of raising a sudden Fortune, by deserting that Cause which he had before so strenuously maintained. They think it is the same Trick which has so often been played them before,
and

and which they now, more than ever, expect to see repeated again. These being then their Sentiments, and as the Arguments which have hitherto been offered in Support of this unfortunate Step, have all proved entirely ineffectual, let us not widen the Breach by setting the whole Flower of the Nation against us, in saying, that there is no Man in it that can carry on a War but Mr. P—; no one in it can make Peace but Mr. P—; no one in it can raise the Supplies but Mr. P—; no one, in short, that can do anything but him: For, in Answer to this they would ask ye, How came *England* to stand then before his Time? Is Heaven grown so unkind to its once favourite Isle, that it has made all its Glory, all its Safety, dependent on the Life of one frail Man, hastening into Years, and withering with Pains, which no Force of Eloquence, no Charms either of Title or Pensions can assuage? Is it to be believed, that the Descendents of those Heroes who have borne our Banners triumphant into all Quarters of the World, and raised the *British* Name so high, inherit Nothing of their Ancestors, but their Possessions?

G

I say;

I say, my Friends, let us omit all these Things, and join in petitioning Madam, and the great C——r to resign ; or if this won't do, an ye be disposed for a Song, why e'en let it be to the Tune of our old favourite Bob, which *Tom Grizzle*, the Barber, entertains us with every *Thursday* Night, at the Club, but whereof my Memory being bad, I can at present only recollect the following Stanza :

YOUR Courtiers and *Patriots*, 'mong other
fine Things,
Will talk of their Country, and Love to
their Kings.
But their Mask will drop off if you shake
but the Pelf,
And show King and Country all center'd in
Self.

*Sing Tantararara, Mask all, Mask all,
Sing Tantararara, Mask all.*

I am,

Your very humble Friend and Servant,

JOHN TROTT.

*Given at my House, the Sign of the Cheshire
Cheese, this 20th Day of October, Anno-
que Domini 1761.*

P O S T S C R I P T.

If you will favour us with your Compa-
ny, you may hear *Tom*, at any Time,
sing it; and all the World knows
he has an admirable fine Voice.

T I N I S.

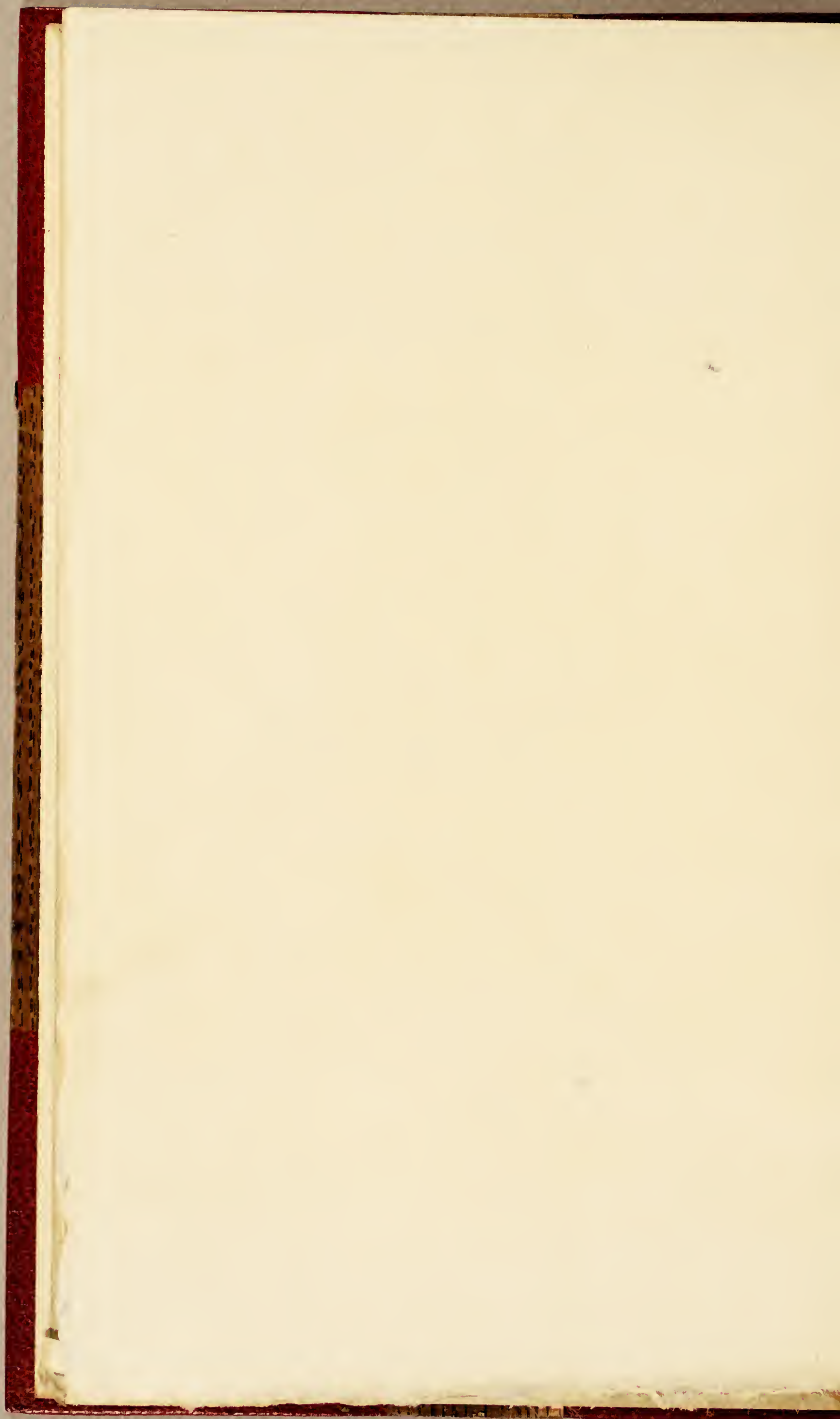
1883

Received of the
 Treasurer of the
 City of New York

the sum of

Five hundred and
 no/100 Dollars
 for the purchase of
 land in the City of New York

for the use of the







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